Proceedings of the Assembly of Representative Raiyats and Merchants from all Taluks of the State, held at Mysore in October 1891.

MEMORANDUM.

The eleventh Assembly of Representative Raiyats and Merchants of the State of Mysore was held at Mysore on Thursday, the 15th October and the following five days.

2. The Assembly was constituted under the Rules issued with Notification No. 76, dated 14th May 1891, and the detailed instructions issued in Government Proceedings No. 1703-10—Cir. 29, dated 15th May 1891, (*vide* Appendix A) which are substantially the same as those which were proposed at the conclusion of the Dewan's Address to the Assembly in October 1890.

3. Under these rules, 2,500 persons were returned as qualified to become Members for Taluks and for the Cities of Mysore and Bangalore. At the several meetings held at Head-quarters of Taluks and in the Offices of the Vice-Presidents of Mysore and Bangalore Municipalities on days in the 2nd week of July previously fixed and duly notified by local officers, 1,259 persons attended and elected 215 Representatives, the maximum fixed in the Rules being 220. Municipalities and Local Fund Boards (103 in number) elected 118 Representatives, and local Associations representing public interests, (7 in number) nominated 7 Representatives. The total number thus elected was 340. Three of these being persons elected by more than one body of electors are twice reckoned in the foregoing figures, so that the actual number of Representatives constituting the first Assembly meeting under the election system has been 337. Of these 262 came to Mysore and attended the meetings of the Assembly. The names of those who were elected and those who attended are given in Appendix B to the Proceedings.

4. The Representatives assembled in Rangacharlu Memorial Hall at 12 noon on the 15th October. Mr. K. Sheshadri Iyer, C. S. I., Dewan, presided. General Sir H. N. D. Prendergast, K. C. B., V. C., R. E., British Resident in Mysore, and Captain C. W. Ravenshaw, 1st Assistant to the Resident, and other European and Native guests of His Highness the Maharaja, as well as Mr. P. Chentsal Row, C. I. E., Councillor to His Highness, Messrs. A. Ramachendra Iyer and P. N. Krishna Murti, Judges of the Chief Court, the Secretaries, Heads of Departments, Deputy Commissioners of Districts and other principal officers of the Mysore State were present.

5. The Dewan delivered his opening address which was heard with much attention. The address was also read in Kanarese and at its conclusion, Mr. R. H. Elliot (of Bachenhalla Estate and Representative from the South Mysore Planters' Association), on behalf of the Representatives assembled, spoke a few words thanking the Dewan for the address and for the measures therein announced. Mr. Elliot promised to present next day a written expression of the sentiments of the Assembly, and, as Chairman of the Central Standing Committee which had been formed by Representatives, named the subjects of general interest which he would ask permission to introduce first next day.

6. The Assembly next met at 8 A. M. on the 16th October. Mr. Elliot presented a written expression of the sentiments of the Assembly (*vide* Appendix C) conveying to His Highness the Maharaja and his Government, the grateful acknowledgments of the first elected Representative Assembly of Mysore, for the introduction of the elective principle into its constitution, for the extension of that principle to the constitution of the Municipal Boards of Mysore and Bangalore and for other public measures which had been passed by the Government. Mr. Srinivas Jois (Representative from the Mysore City) spoke in similar terms on behalf of the Kanarese speaking Members of the Assembly, and added that they fully appreciated the wisdom and thoughtfulness with which the Maharaja's Government had met and even anticipated the wants and aspirations of His Highness' subjects. Mr. Elliot then introduced the subjects of general interest on which he had been asked by Representatives from the various Districts to be their spokesman. Messrs. Patnagiri Ranganna and Chikmagalur Srinivasa Rao (Representatives from the Kadur District) also introduced a few other questions of general interest. Several Representatives took part in the discussion and the Dewan's reply being given on each point, the meeting was adjourned at about 11 A. M.

7. The Assembly met again at about 7-30 A. M. next day (17th October) when Mr. R. Buchanan (Representative from the North Mysore Planters' Association and Mr. Grey (Representative from the Gold Mining Board, Kolar) introduced the subjects on which they had been deputed to speak. Other subjects brought up by other Representatives from the Kadur and Bangalore Districts were discussed and the Assembly adjourned about 11 o'clock.

8. It met again at about 7-30 A. M. on the 18th October. The remaining subjects which Representatives from the Kadur District had to speak about were gone through as well as those of Representatives from the Chitaldroog District. The Shimoga District was taken up next. Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao (Deputy Commissioner on Special Duty investigating certain questions affecting the Shimoga District) explained under Dewan's directions the details of the orders which Government intended to issue on various questions pending in the Forest Department regarding raiyats' Forest rights and privileges and the classification of reserved and unreserved timber and the rates of seigniorage payable thereon. This disposed of a number of subjects which Representatives had proposed speaking about. Other subjects being introduced and discussed, the Assembly was adjourned at about noon.

9. It met again at 7-30 A. M. on the 19th October and sat till noon. At this sitting, the Shimoga District was resumed and finished. The Hassan, Tumkur, Kolar and Bangalore Districts were then taken up in succession, and partially disposed of.

10. The Assembly met again at 7-30 A. M. on the 20th October and sat till about 9 A. M. At this sitting, Representatives presented a Kanarese address of loyalty and gratitude to His Highness the Maharaja and his Government (*vide* Appendix G) which the Dewan duly acknowledged, thanking the Representatives in suitable terms for their cordial appreciation of the efforts of the Government to promote the welfare of the people. After this, the Bangalore, Kolar and Chitaldroog Districts were resumed and finished, and the Assembly adjourned to view the water-lifts, a sugar refiner, a coffee peeler and some sugar-cane crushers which were being exhibited near the Kukarhalli Tank.

11. The Assembly held its final sitting in the afternoon of the 20th October when the Tumkur District was resumed and finished and the Mysore District was

taken up and disposed of. The sitting ended with Representatives thanking the Dewan for the cordial welcome and the attentive, patient and sympathetic hearing he had accorded to them and for all the help and attentions they had received from officers under his orders at their preliminary meetings in the Town Hall.

12. The Dewan's address, a summary of the discussions and the written addresses of Representatives are annexed, together with a few other papers referred to in the course of the proceedings.

By Order,
T. ANANDA ROW,
Chief Secretary.